GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:448
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007
RADIO STATIONS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of radio stations expected to go on air till the end of the year, State and Union Territory-wise ;

(b) Whether the Government has received bids for class-C and D cities;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R.DASMUNSI)

(a) The details of All India Radio Stations and Private FM Radio Stations which are expected to go on air till the end of the year has been indicated in Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

(b) to (d) A new Policy of expansion of FM broadcasting through Private Operators was notified in July, 2005. Subsequently, 337 channels including 217 channels of class-C and class-D cities in 61 cities were put on bid. Out of these 217 channels, agreements were signed with successful bidders for 139 channels in 57 cities as per statement attached as Annexure-III. For the remaining 78 vacant channels of class-C and class-D cities, pre- qualification bids have been invited from Private Companies through Tender Notification dated 8.6.2007.